

Dedham July 9. 1840.

Dear Friend:

I avail myself of the suspended leisure of a rainy day, which suspends our agricultural operations, to thank you for your well filled sheet - the interest of which to me you in so wise estimate when you place me in the predicament of one of yourselves when separated from the circum-wabbled centre of their state. I reply in hopes of drawing forth a continuum of your pleasant substitutes for the case that higher course of that mischievous habitation - though it is something like Diomedes exchanging his iron armor for the golden mail of Glauca from to offer the small-tabs of Dedham in return for the pregnant ^{popul} of the Anti-Slavery Metropolis. And yet I lie - as John Randolph used to say - for have I not to tell of the advancement of the new organization plan which has been enacted by the Dedham F. A. S. Society. Well - they had their meeting yesterday & transacted their auxiliary ^{affair} to the N. F. E. Soc. by a vote of 27 to 18. This was accomplished after the most approved example of their new State - nothing by drawing up all manner of women ~~some~~ ^{of whom} who had never seen before by some of the old ^{off} ^{to} & many who had taken no interest in the cause - but who came cheerfully in when the business was ~~to~~ ^{to} another it. The rallying word was "The church is in danger!" & these new ^{author} ^{lions} of ^{the} Soc. ^{put} their trust from the scrupulous hands of those who would try ^{it's} ^{be} the text of recrimination. Mr. Houghton was chosen Pres. by the sum vote - of course before the auxiliary was ^{author} ^{changed}. As soon as that was done the minority withdrew from the Society - its ^{author} ^{matter} rest at present. The women who have withdrawn hold a meeting on Saturday afternoon to talk over the matter & decide what they had better do - whether to form another Soc. - or act as members of ^{author} ^{ones} in Boston,

what notice, if any, should be publicly taken of it. Now I conceive it to be very important that all this matter should be done exactly right - as a model for the other women's societies in the country, which are no doubt like to go through the same process. And in order to this I think it is all important that you should come out of the present meeting. I suggested the possibility of your being there to some of them & they were very anxious for it - & indeed fixed their meeting for Saturday in order that you might be there. The truth is, that though these women are as true as steel & will of course go substantially right, still it is by no means impossible that they may go formally wrong - for their ignorance of business is extraordinary. They have done just right so far, but it has been only by continual drilling - like upon horseback upon precept - that they have been kept from committing great blunders. I think you will see the importance of their having a judicious person who understands the whole matter & knows just how to proceed, to help them. And you are the very person to do it. Should you think the notice too short for a visit to the Lancers' I pray you to come without ceremony to my house. We are always ready to receive company whom we like & who deserve us in the least. Indeed I think you had better pay me a visit on this occasion & the 2^d or 3^d at some other time. So I consider that matter as settled & shall expect to see you drive up in the R. R. convenience (which is the express stage of the one which conveys the fruit & the faults to the House of Commons) on Friday evg. It seems to me that there had better be a brief statement of facts & of the reasons which made them feel obliged to withdraw drawn up for the Liberator & a series of strong resolutions about New York & the War⁵ Soc. - the Liberator & &c - to be adopted whether the enquiry anew or not. And it is my opinion that the same had better be draughted in that it among you - brought out in your pocket in case of an emergency. No doubt it might be so managed as to avoid the appearance of foreign interference. I think, as I said before, that it is particularly important that this affair should be conducted exactly right as it is the first of the series of attacks which are to be made on the Female Societies throughout War⁵. - & I do not believe that it will go exactly right unless you can continue to be there. So fare you well at your peril - as the wife said. - I forgot to mention the additional inducement of hearing a lecture on Sunday evg from the very number of your servants - which of itself should be a sufficient attraction - as the theatrical puffs say - to induce you to come.

I rec'd a letter from Maria on Tuesday evg - dated Sunday - touching "Finsbury" which I answered yesterday to Mr. Parker. I

was glad to see her hand so white once more & her so good
acount of Henry's convalescence. I feel so don't now, of his getting
entirely over it. As riding on horseback is advised in such cases I don't
recommend him to mount my hobby & take a pleasant ride in
the domain of Graham. I shall not consider that it is quite lawful with
it has banished forth of its limits all riotous eating of flesh & the
carcasses of dead animals as food. The claim of ultraism is incomplete
without this last link.

I had a very pleasant visit to Lynn & spent a full hour with the Smiths
& her friend were there & we had some very pleasant talk. How lucky it was
that she happened upon the double-faced & double-named Wm. ~~alias~~
Colman before the 4th of July! only imagine the Doctor of the Human
race, in the birth-day of his country, being arrested in the pulpit &
equanimously dragged to prison for bilking his lodgers! And yet this
would have been no unpardonable event had the affair gone on. What
motive could induce an adventurer to come among obstinates of
all the birds in the air I cannot conceive. Surely not for any money
or worldly good name he could get among them. I wrote to Bro. May a
few days since & proposed his case to him as a proper one for the
exercise of his charity. I trust the Abolitionists will get hold of this
scandal - though that can hardly be expected. But if they are
down upon us on his account it will afford an opportunity for
a parallel, after the manner of Plutarch, between him & Phelps
Towner or one of the other leaders - which I apprehend will not be
to the disadvantage of our good old friend. How I long to see the
treasures contained in the archives of the American Socy. I trust they
will be imparted to me writing to Gen. Tappan to ask him to write a
word of consolation & encouragement to the Standard. I have so acquisi-
-tance with that worthy man except a self-introduction at the N. S. Convan-
-tion & think she had better write to him on the subject. Still if it is right
here I will make bold to epitomize him.

Last Saturday was celebrated, as I suppose you know, by the Whigs of Dedham
at Dedham. Log-cabins - hard cider - Garrison lodges & banners the
order of the day. What is observable is that the Ladies participated in
the proceedings - walked in the procession with a truly patriotic contempt
of Standard - went to the dinner &c - which the very same persons would
no doubt be shocked at the idea of acting in an A. S. Society. Truly the
"Sphere of women" must be made of co-ordinates of the most
elastic description ^{it is well} ~~so as to~~ accommodate the never ending ^{and} ~~so as to~~
-sistencies of this goat-straining & cannot-swallowing generation!
When she can be used as the tool of man for the accomplishment of his
ambitions or sectarian designs, to change the administration of the State
or to overturn that of the Church & the other is just where she can be used

by her master most to his advantage - but if she ventures to act on her own account as an independent instrument for the attainment of some great good to the race & straightforward she is relegated to the pitchfork & the nursery as the one place where she can properly appear! Think of all the counts that are counted in this counting world. The count of "Injustice" is not only "the worst" but "the most disquieting". For we can part here, of the opinion of His Prophetic vision. In one of the wisest moments of alarm we read, "that he who makes two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before deserves better of mankind & does more spiritual service to his country, than the whole race of Jobbers put together." I stand at home & hold corn. There you at Abingdon are that day? Of course you had a good time. I have waited another sheet of paper in reply to Rev. May endeavoring to show him that we stand just where he did in

Send.

1840

Frank.

Reverend C.

Caroline Weston.
Ms. C. 2. G. Chapman.

ct. Recd.

Postage paid



regard to his intolerant orthodox opponents in Brooklyn - only that they are honest & told him that if he could retain his good opinion of the N.Y. Abolitionists after reading their defense that his charity was not only "diseased" but that it was in the very blue staff not to say in a state of collapse I勸icated him moreover that it would avail upon keeping so refractory a beast that he would at least ride it with a carbine so that it should not kick or hurt any of his own friends for the comfort & amusement of his other enemies. But it is like firing musket balls into a cotton bag - a mere waste of powder & shot - to attempt to pierce his triple mail. I shall expect to see you on Friday night without fail. You could spend a couple of very pleasant days here among the true blue Abolitionists & you should have some choice of lectures on Sunday or you may give

Leave to see Dr. King Prairie
P. I. Practice the incisive & cutting a man off in this age counts. You have got to burn that by something like the incisive & cutting off of all the bad parts of a man & a proper thing be will return by gradually peeling the skin down - if you are a pure man - only